

LISTING OF CLAIMS

The following listing of claims should be entered to replace all prior listings of the claims in this application. In accordance with Rule 121, the status of each claim is indicated parenthetically. As can be seen in this listing, claims 1, 16, 25, 167, 172, and 174-183 have been amended. Claims 2-4, 13-15, 18, 30-164, 168, 171, and 184 have been cancelled. Claim 185 has been added. Claims 1, 5-12, 16-17, 19-29, 165-167, 169-170, 172-183, and 185 remain in the application. Each amendment is believed to have been made in accordance with Rule 121, however, should any unintended informality exist, it is requested that the undersigned be contacted by telephone so that it may be resolved as expediently as possible.

1. (Currently Amended)
A method of producing a nonhuman mammal comprising the steps of:
 - a. collecting sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species of mammal;
 - b. establishing a sperm cell source which supplies nonhuman sperm cells to be separated;
 - c. sensing a sex characteristic of said nonhuman sperm cells;
 - d. separating nonhuman sperm cells based upon said sex characteristic and a rate of at least 1200 sorts per second;
 - e. establishing an insemination sample ~~having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells~~ capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels ~~comparable to~~ selected from the group consisting of at least 35%, at least 41%, at least 50%, and at least 90% of a typical insemination dosage and having a number of separated nonhuman sperm cells less than about one-half the number of sperm cells of said typical insemination dosage;
 - f. inserting a portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal;

- g. fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal; and
- h. producing a non-human offspring mammal.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 1 wherein said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal has uterine horns and wherein said step of inserting a portion of said insemination sample into said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal comprises the step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample both ipsi- and contra-lateral within the uterine horns of said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal.

6. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 1 wherein said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal has at least one uterine horn and wherein said step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample into said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal comprises the step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample deep within said uterine horn.

7. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 5 wherein said step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal further comprises the step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample deep within said uterine horns.

8. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 6 wherein said step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal further comprises the step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample within said uterine horn through the use of embryo transfer equipment.

9. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 7 wherein said step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal further comprises the step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample within said uterine horns through the use of embryo transfer equipment.

10. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 5 wherein said step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal comprises the step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample twelve hours after the time which is generally regarded as optimal for a single insemination.

11. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 9 wherein said step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample into a female nonhuman species of said mammal occurs not later than about seventeen hours from said step of establishing an insemination sample having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said species of said mammal at success levels comparable to a typical insemination dosage.

12. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 9 wherein said step of inserting said portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of mammal occurs not later than about ten hours from said step of establishing said insemination sample.

13-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 1 ~~further comprising~~ wherein said step of separating further comprises the steps of:

- a. providing a flow cytometer;
- b. establishing a sheath fluid for said nonhuman sperm cells; and
- c. collecting said nonhuman sperm cells having the desired sex characteristic.

17. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 16 wherein said step of collecting said nonhuman sperm cells having the desired sex characteristic further comprises the step of cushioning said nonhuman sperm cells from impact with a collector.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 1 further comprising the step of using an ovulatory pharmaceutical to cause multiple eggs to be produced.

20. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 19 wherein said ovulatory pharmaceutical is injected in half day increments between any of days 2 to 18 of the estrus cycle.

21. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 20 wherein said step of using an ovulatory pharmaceutical to cause multiple eggs to be produced comprises the step of injecting a dosage of follicle stimulating hormone.

22. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 21 wherein said step of injecting said dosage of follicle stimulating hormone in approximately half day increments comprises a dosage level of 6, 6, 4, 4, 2, 2, 2, and 2 mg between days 9 and 12 inclusive of the estrus cycle and further comprising the step of injecting 25 mg and 12.5 mg of prostaglandin F-2-alpha on the sixth and seventh dosages, respectively, of said follicle stimulating hormone.

23. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 16 further comprising the step of staining said nonhuman sperm cells of said male of said species of mammal with at least about 38 micro-molar concentration of stain.

24. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 16 further comprising the step of chemically coordinating a sheath fluid environment for sperm cells which is coordinated with both pre-sort and post-sort sperm cell fluid environments.

25. (Currently Amended)
A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in ~~claim 1, 2, 16, 17 or 18~~ claim 1, 16, or 17 wherein collecting sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species of mammal comprises collecting said sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species selected from the group consisting of bovines, and equines.
26. (Previously Presented)
A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 16 or claim 24 wherein said step of chemically coordinating a sheath fluid to create a sheath fluid environment for said nonhuman sperm cells which is coordinated with both a pre-sort and a post-sort cell fluid environments comprises the step of establishing a cell source which supplies bovine sperm cells and the step of establishing a sheath fluid which contains about 2.9% sodium citrate.
27. (Previously Presented)
A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 16 or claim 24 wherein said step of chemically coordinating a sheath fluid to create a sheath fluid environment for said cells which is coordinated with both a pre-sort and a post-sort cell fluid environment comprises the step of establishing a cell source which supplies equine sperm cells and the step of establishing a sheath fluid which contains a hepes buffered medium.
28. (Previously Presented)
A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 16 wherein said step of collecting said nonhuman sperm cells having the desired sex characteristic further comprises the step of avoiding impact of said nonhuman sperm cells with a collector.
29. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 28 wherein said step of avoiding impact of said nonhuman sperm cells with said collector comprises the step of providing a collection container having a diameter of at least fifteen millimeters.

30-164. (Cancelled)

165. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 28 wherein said step of avoiding impact of said nonhuman sperm cells with said collector comprises the step of providing a collection container having stream matched physical characteristics.

166. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 16 wherein said step of collecting said nonhuman sperm cells having the desired sex characteristic further comprises the step of providing a citrate collection fluid containing about six percent egg yolk prior to commencing said step of collecting.

167. (Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in ~~claim 16~~ claim 16 further comprising the step of operating said flow cytometer within the range of about 5 kilohertz to about 50 kilohertz.

168. (Cancelled)

169. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 1 wherein said step of establishing an insemination sample having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells capable of fertilizing at least

one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels comparable to a typical insemination dosage comprises the step of establishing an insemination sample selected from the group consisting of: a bovine insemination sample of no more than one hundred thousand sperm cells, a bovine insemination sample of no more than two hundred fifty thousand sperm cells, a bovine insemination sample of no more than three hundred thousand sperm cells, an equine insemination sample of no more than one million sperm cells, an equine insemination sample of no more than five million sperm cells, an equine insemination sample of no more than ten million sperm cells, and an equine insemination sample of no more than twenty-five million sperm cells.

170. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 1 wherein said step of inserting a portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal and said step of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal occurs in a field environment.

171. (Cancelled)

172. (Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in ~~claim 171~~ claim 170 wherein said step of inserting a portion of an insemination sample ~~wherein a substantial portion of said separated nonhuman sperm cells have the desired sex characteristic~~ comprises selecting said insemination sample from a group consisting of an insemination sample wherein at least 60 percent of said separated nonhuman sperm cells have the desired sex characteristic, an insemination sample wherein at least 70 percent of said nonhuman sperm have the desired sex characteristic, an insemination sample wherein at least 80 percent of said nonhuman sperm

have the desired sex characteristic, and an insemination sample wherein at least 90 percent of said nonhuman sperm have the desired sex characteristic.

173. (Previously Presented)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 172 wherein said step of producing a nonhuman offspring mammal comprises producing a predetermined sex ratio of fetuses.

174. (Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species of mammal;
- b. establishing a sperm cell source which supplies nonhuman sperm cells to be separated;
- c. sensing a sex characteristic of said nonhuman sperm cells;
- d. separating nonhuman sperm cells based upon said sex characteristic and a rate of at least 1200 sorts per second;
- e. ~~establishing an insemination sample having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells~~ capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels ~~comparable to~~ selected from the group consisting of at least 35%, at least 41%, at least 50%, and at least 90% of a typical insemination dosage and having a number of separated nonhuman sperm cells less than about one-half the number of sperm cells of said typical insemination dosage;
- f. inserting a portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal not later than about twelve hours after the time which is generally regarded as optimal for a single insemination;
- g. fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal; and

h. producing a nonhuman offspring mammal.

175.

(Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species of mammal;
- b. establishing a sperm cell source which supplies nonhuman sperm cells to be separated;
- c. sensing a sex characteristic of said nonhuman sperm cells;
- d. separating nonhuman sperm cells based upon said sex characteristic and a rate of at least 1200 sorts per second;
- e. establishing an insemination sample ~~having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells~~ capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels ~~comparable to~~ selected from the group consisting of at least 35%, at least 41%, at least 50%, and at least 90% of a typical insemination dosage and having a number of separated nonhuman sperm cells less than about one-half the number of sperm cells of said typical insemination dosage;
- f. inserting a portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal not later than about seventeen hours from said step of establishing ~~an insemination sample having a low number of separated sperm cells capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels comparable to a typical insemination dosage~~ said insemination sample;
- g. fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal; and
- h. producing a nonhuman offspring mammal.

176.

(Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species of mammal;
- b. establishing a sperm cell source which supplies nonhuman sperm cells to be separated;
- c. sensing a sex characteristic of said nonhuman sperm cells;
- d. separating nonhuman sperm cells based upon said sex characteristic and a rate of at least 1200 sorts per second;
- e. establishing an insemination sample ~~having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells~~ capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels ~~comparable to~~ selected from the group consisting of at least 35%, at least 41%, at least 50%, and at least 90% of a typical insemination dosage and having a number of separated nonhuman sperm cells less than about one-half the number of sperm cells of said typical insemination dosage;
- f. inserting a portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal later than about ten hours from said step of establishing said insemination sample;
- g. fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal;
- h. producing a nonhuman offspring mammal.

177. (Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting nonhuman sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species of mammal selected from the group consisting of bovines and equines;
- b. establishing a sperm cell source which supplies nonhuman sperm cells to be separated in a sheath fluid that contains a hepes buffered medium;
- c. sensing a sex characteristic of said nonhuman sperm cells;

- d. separating nonhuman sperm cells based upon said sex characteristic;
- e. establishing an insemination sample ~~having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells~~ capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels ~~comparable to~~ selected from the group consisting of at least 35%, at least 41%, at least 50%, and at least 90% of a typical insemination dosage and having a number of separated nonhuman sperm cells less than about one-half the number of sperm cells of said typical insemination dosage;
- f. inserting a portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal;
- g. fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal; and
- h. producing a nonhuman offspring mammal.

178.

(Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species of mammal;
- b. establishing a sperm cell source which supplies nonhuman sperm cells to be separated;
- c. sensing a sex characteristic of said nonhuman sperm cells;
- d. separating nonhuman sperm cells based upon said sex characteristic utilizing a collection container having a diameter of at least fifteen millimeters;
- e. establishing an insemination sample ~~having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells~~ capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels ~~comparable to~~ selected from the group consisting of at least 35%, at least 41%, at least 50%, and at least 90% of a typical insemination dosage and having a number of separated nonhuman

sperm cells less than about one-half the number of sperm cells of said typical insemination dosage;

- f. inserting a portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal;
- g. fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal; and
- h. producing a nonhuman offspring mammal.

179.

(Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species of mammal;
- b. establishing a sperm cell source which supplies nonhuman sperm cells to be separated;
- c. sensing a sex characteristic of said nonhuman sperm cells;
- d. separating nonhuman sperm cells based upon said sex characteristic into a stream utilizing a collection container having stream matched physical characteristics;
- e. establishing an insemination sample ~~having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells~~ capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels ~~comparable to~~ selected from the group consisting of at least 35%, at least 41%, at least 50%, and at least 90% of a typical insemination dosage and having a number of separated nonhuman sperm cells less than about one-half the number of sperm cells of said typical insemination dosage;
- f. inserting a portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal;
- g. fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal; and
- h. producing a nonhuman offspring mammal.

180. (Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species of mammal;
- b. establishing a sperm cell source which supplies nonhuman sperm cells to be separated;
- c. sensing a sex characteristic of said nonhuman sperm cells;
- d. separating nonhuman sperm cells based upon said sex characteristic and a rate of at least 1200 sorts per second;
- e. establishing an insemination sample ~~having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells~~ capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels ~~comparable to~~ selected from the group consisting of at least 35%, at least 41%, at least 50%, and at least 90% of a typical insemination dosage and having a number of separated nonhuman sperm cells less than about one-half the number of sperm cells of said typical insemination dosage;
- f. inserting a portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal;
- g. fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal; and
- h. producing a nonhuman offspring mammal.

181. (Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species of mammal;
- b. establishing a sperm cell source which supplies nonhuman sperm cells to be separated;
- c. sensing a sex characteristic of said nonhuman sperm cells;
- d. separating nonhuman sperm cells based upon said sex characteristic and a rate of at least 1200 sorts per second;

- e. establishing an insemination sample having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels ~~comparable to~~ selected from the group consisting of at least 35%, at least 41%, at least 50%, and at least 90% of a typical insemination dosage, wherein said step of establishing an insemination sample comprises the step of establishing an insemination sample selected from the group consisting of: a bovine insemination sample of no more than one hundred thousand sperm cells, a bovine insemination sample of no more than two hundred fifty thousand sperm cells, a bovine insemination sample of no more than three hundred thousand sperm cells, an equine insemination sample of no more than one million sperm cells, an equine insemination sample of no more than five million sperm cells, an equine insemination sample of no more than ten million sperm cells, and an equine insemination sample of no more than twenty-five million sperm cells;
- f. inserting a portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal;
- g. fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal; and
- h. producing a nonhuman offspring mammal.

182. (Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species of mammal;
- b. establishing a sperm cell source which supplies nonhuman sperm cells to be separated;
- c. sensing a sex characteristic of said nonhuman sperm cells;
- d. separating nonhuman sperm cells based upon said sex characteristic and a rate of at least 1200 sorts per second;

- e. establishing an insemination sample ~~having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells~~ capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels ~~comparable to~~ selected from the group consisting of at least 35%, at least 41%, at least 50%, and at least 90% of a typical insemination dosage and having a number of separated nonhuman sperm cells less than about one-half the number of sperm cells of said typical insemination dosage;
- f. inserting a portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal, having a desired sex characteristic selected from a group consisting of an insemination sample wherein at least 80 percent of said nonhuman sperm have the desired sex characteristic, and an insemination sample wherein at least 90 percent of said nonhuman sperm have the desired sex characteristic;
- g. fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal; and
- h. producing a nonhuman offspring mammal.

183. (Currently Amended)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting sperm cells from a male of a nonhuman species of mammal;
- b. establishing a sperm cell source which supplies nonhuman sperm cells to be separated;
- c. sensing a sex characteristic of said nonhuman sperm cells;
- d. separating nonhuman sperm cells based upon said sex characteristic through use of a flow cytometer and a rate of at least 1200 sorts per second;
- e. establishing an insemination sample ~~having a low number of separated nonhuman sperm cells~~ capable of fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal at success levels ~~comparable to~~ selected from the group consisting of at least

35%, at least 41%, at least 50%, and at least 90% of a typical insemination dosage and having a number of separated nonhuman sperm cells less than about one-half the number of sperm cells of said typical insemination dosage;

- f. inserting a portion of said insemination sample into a female of said nonhuman species of said mammal, having a desired sex characteristic selected from a group consisting of an insemination sample wherein at least 60 percent of said separated sperm cells have the desired sex characteristic, an insemination sample wherein at least 70 percent of said sperm have the desired sex characteristic, an insemination sample wherein at least 80 percent of said sperm have the desired sex characteristic, and an insemination sample wherein at least 90 percent of said sperm have the desired sex characteristic;
- g. fertilizing at least one egg within said female of said nonhuman species of said mammal; and
- h. producing a nonhuman offspring mammal.

184. (Cancelled)

185. (New)

A method of producing a nonhuman mammal as described in claim 177, 178, or 179 further comprising the step of separating said sperm cells at a rate of at least 1200 sorts per second.